

Israelis clamp curfew on Balata

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli troops fired rubber bullets and tear-gas at stone-throwing demonstrators masked in traditional Arab headscarves on Tuesday at a refugee camp in the occupied West Bank, an Israeli army spokeswoman said. Israeli authorities clamped a curfew on the Balata camp after the clash, which followed a similar incident on Monday evening at the camp, the West Bank's largest with 12,000 residents. In the occupied Gaza Strip, Israeli authorities arrested the head of a local Palestine Communist Party (PCP) branch overnight and later ordered him to be jailed without trial for six months, military sources said. Such "administrative detention orders" date back to British mandatory rule over Palestine. Muhammad Khalil Barbah, 30, was suspected of "inciting disturbances" and hostile activity, the military spokeswoman said. The PCP is officially banned as part of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Meanwhile, an 18-year-old Palestinian student was arrested overnight when troops raided his home at the Askar refugee camp near Nablus, according to the Palestine Press Service in Arab Jerusalem. No further details were immediately available.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Times Foundation
جordan Times يوميٌّ مستقلٌّ تحريرٌ وطبعٌ عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية، الاردن

Volume 12 Number 3638

AMMAN, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 1987, RABIA AL THANI 4, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Meeting discusses
locations under
Japanese loan

JORDAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday visited the Prime Minister and met for some time with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. After he chaired a meeting in the presence of Mr. Rifai to discuss locations of a \$300 million Japanese loan to Jordan. Those attending the meeting included ministers of foreign affairs, industry and trade, finance, energy and mineral resources and mining, as well as the Central Bank Governor and Prince Hassan's economic advisor.

Rifai receives
Japanese message

JORDAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai conferred in office on Tuesday with Dr. Idris Makki Madani, an envoy of Sudanese Prime Minister Idris Al Mabdi. Dr. Madani handed a message to Mr. Rifai in Mr. Mabdi's office. Mr. Mabdi and Mr. Madani also discussed Japanese-Jordanian cooperation. A meeting was attended by Mr. Idris Fadel Al Mabdi, member of Sudan's parliament and Mr. Mabdi's Ambassador to Jordan, Hisham Radwan.

Shooting kills 1,
wounds 5
Shatila

JORDAN (Petra) — A Palestinian commander was killed and five others wounded on Tuesday in a sniper fire at the entrance to the Shatila refugee camp, Palestinian sources said. They said the camp's military commander was killed by snipers of the local militia ringing the shanty town. They identified the dead commander as Mohsen and said firing seriously wounded the local representative of the Democratic Struggle Front and four fighters. There was no comment available from Amal officials.

IRWA gets
\$12 million pledge

UNITED NATIONS (R) — More than \$12 million has been pledged by 36 countries and the peace Community towards 1988 programme of the U.N.ef and Works Agency for state refugees (UNRWA), officials said. A number of countries, including the United States and Japan, told a special meeting late on Monday their contributions would be announced at a later date. At a meeting last November, a total of nearly \$145 million was used by 33 states and the peace Community.

Riucci sworn in

WASHINGTON (AP) — Frank Riucci was sworn in as U.S. secretary of defence Monday succeeding Caspar W. Weinberger, resigned earlier this month in the wake of his wife's health. Mr. Riucci, formerly President Ronald Reagan's national security adviser, was administered the oath of office by Federal Appeals Court Justice Silberman in the House.

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U.S., Soviet Union finalise INF pact

GENEVA (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union announced on Tuesday they had completed a treaty to eliminate all intermediate-range nuclear missiles — the first superpower arms treaty in nearly a decade.

"We have now completed an agreement on all the outstanding INF (intermediate-range nuclear forces) issues," U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz announced with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Washington on Dec. 7-10.

Shaking hands with the Soviet foreign minister outside the U.S. mission, Mr. Shultz said all that remained was completing treaty language that lower-level officials would be able to handle.

"We have no doubt the (Reagan-Gorbachev) summit meeting will be successful," Mr. Shevardnadze said.

"The next step should be the abolition of all nuclear weapons," said Mr. Shultz. "The treaty, which with accom-

panying annexes is well over 100 pages, is the longest and most detailed arms pact ever negotiated by the superpowers.

Problems had centred on sections designed to ensure against cheating. In particular, negotiators struggled to agree on clauses to permit quick on-site inspection of areas or facilities suspected of violating the pact.

Mr. Shultz and Mr. Shevardnadze stood hatless in the brisk late autumn air outside the U.S. mission where they held a brief fourth meeting after hearing reports from their top arms experts.

The experts had met five times in the past two days.

Mr. Shultz and Mr. Shevardnadze did not describe how they overcame the last obstacles to the accord.

Mr. Shultz and Mr. Shevardnadze also considered the delicate question of how to have Mr. Gorbachev meet with members of the U.S. Congress. The idea of having Mr. Gorbachev address a joint meeting of Congress had apparently been dropped, following objections by a number of conservative Republicans.

The final Shultz-Shevardnadze agreement on this issue was not

"We are very pleased," said Mr. Shultz.

Dissidents claim 'most significant victory' against Iranian soldiers

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian rebels said Tuesday they killed 1,500 Iranian soldiers in a two-day battle they hailed as their "most significant victory" this year.

Iran claimed its warplanes attacked Iraqi defences in the southern sector of the 1,180-kilometre Gulf war front.

The Iranians have been massing as many as 20 divisions in that sector, east of the battered Iraqi city of Basra, for what the Iraqis and military analysts believe is a new offensive to break the stalemate in the seven-year-old conflict.

The escalation in ground fighting after weeks of desultory clashes heightened speculation that the Iranians are planning a series of diversionary thrusts along the front to draw off Iraqi forces before any major push is launched in the south.

The statement was teleaxed to AP in Nicosia from the Mujahideen's headquarters in Baghdad. Eighteen NLA fighters were

killed in the 36-hour battle that ended at noon Monday, the communiqué noted.

It said seven battalions of the Iranians' 64th Orumieh division were destroyed or badly mauled, knocking out the division as a fighting unit.

It was the second major assault reported by the NLA in recent days. The Mujahideen said 180 Iranians were killed, 170 wounded and 60 captured in fighting outside the shell-battered Iranian border town of Mehran Sunday.

The NLA, which is mainly made up of Mujahideen fighters, overran several bases and hills, destroyed 10 tanks and more than 100 vehicles in the assault that began early Sunday, the communiqué said.

The statement was teleaxed to AP in Nicosia from the Mujahideen's headquarters in Baghdad. Eighteen NLA fighters were

Mubarak and Ceausescu urge talks to end Gulf war

CAIRO (R) — Presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania called on Tuesday for negotiations to end the Gulf war and the Middle East conflict, Egyptian Information Minister Saif al-Sharif said.

Speaking to reporters after two days of talks on the second day of Mr. Ceausescu's state visit to Egypt, Mr. Sharif said the two presidents "agreed that all problems can be settled through negotiations between the parties concerned and that efforts must be exerted to help Iran and Iraq end their war."

The two leaders also stressed the importance for the parties concerned in the Middle East to settle their problems through negotiations, he said.

Mr. Sharif said the two leaders voiced support for a U.N.-sponsored international peace conference on the Middle East, which received formal backing from the Arab League summit in Amman earlier this month.

Mr. Ceausescu also raised the decision of nine Arab states to resume ties with Cairo, severed in 1979 in protest against Egypt's separate peace treaty with Israel. Egypt and Romania will issue a communiqué on Wednesday at the end of Mr. Ceausescu's visit.

Confrontations on rise between Iranian and foreign navies in Gulf

BAHRAIN (AP) — An Iranian warship locked its guns Tuesday on an Iranian frigate blocking its way and warned it to move away, in the third confrontation this week between Iran and foreign navies in the Gulf, salvage and shipping sources reported.

The two previous confrontations on Monday involved Soviet and French warships.

Radio operators who monitor shipping in the Gulf said the Iranian warship told the Iranian frigate by radio: "You are in our way... move away."

The Iranians locked their guns on the Iranian frigate and, after a brief pause, the Iranians moved away, a Dubai-based salvage executive told AP in a telephone interview.

He had no other details on the incident.

The Iranian frigate was believed to be the Alvand, which constantly patrols southern Gulf waters sometimes with speedboats manned by Islamic Revolutionary Guards. It occasionally intercepts commercial vessels to check if their cargoes contained war material for Iraq.

Seamen now call the area the

Alvand alley." The Iranian warship is one of eight units dispatched to the region after the United States urged allies to assemble a multi-national force in the waterway to keep it open for commercial shipping.

The Iranian navy on Sunday completed sweeping waters abutting the strategic Strait of Hormuz, the only gateway to the Gulf, in search of mines.

The Iranian force in the Gulf includes the minesweepers Vieste, Sapri and Milazzo, the support ship Anteo, the frigates Grecce, Scirocco, and Perseo, in addition to the tanker Vesuvio.

The minesweepers, the Anteo and the Grecale entered the Gulf Sunday to scan waters near Dubai.

Dutch, Belgian and British units are in the central Gulf and U.S. navy minesweepers have been searching for mines near Iran's Farsi Island. They have found and detonated nine explosives.

At least three commercial vessels — the Indian tanker Major Biru Singh, the Cypriot tanker Medulas, and the Japanese-owned Sunlight Jewel — also were challenged by the Iranians Tuesday, said the salvage executives and shipping agents.

(Continued on page 3)

Deputies hail Amman summit outcome and pay tribute to His Majesty's efforts

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The general enthusiasm and satisfaction among Jordanian parliamentarians over the successful outcome of the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit in Amman was evident in speeches presented by deputies at the Lower House of Parliament on Tuesday.

Five deputies addressed the House during its regular session on Tuesday and paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein for his successful efforts at unifying Arab ranks and his role in making the Amman summit a resounding success.

In addition, the central theme in the speeches made by Deputies

Daoud Suleiman Daoud (Jerusalem), Ismail Hijazi (Hebron), Abdul Qader Saleh (Nablus), Wshid Al Jaabari (Hebron) and Muhsin Al Muhsin (Nahli) was hope that His Majesty would be further successful in his endeavours to follow up and implement the resolutions adopted by the summit on the Iran-Iraq war, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Lebanese situation and other issues of common interest to the Arab Nation.

A cable reaffirming the House support for His Majesty the King and congratulating him was sent by Speaker Akef Al Feyez on the eve of the summit's conclusion.

The cable was seen by deputies as stating the House's suc-

cessful results.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, responding to suggestions made by Irbid Deputy Nader Abu Al Shaer and Mr. Jaabari, said there was no need for holding a closed House session to discuss issues related to the summit.

"I see no necessity for holding a closed session to brief the honoured chamber on the summit since the meeting's results are known to everybody. The summit's final communiqué was covered by the various information media," said Mr. Rifai.

Mr. Rifai said "no secret resolutions" were adopted by the summit and deputies were free to read all documentation on the conference's sessions and resolutions.

(Continued on page 3)

Soviet official pledges continued efforts by Moscow towards int'l peace parley

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Soviet Union will work hard to convene an international Middle East peace conference under U.N. supervision, the head of a visiting Soviet delegation said Tuesday.

Pavel Volakov also said His Majesty King Hussein's visit to the Soviet Union, expected to take place before the end of 1987, was bound to bolster ties of friendship and cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union and enhance bilateral coordination in efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Addressing a press conference at the end of a week-long visit to Jordan, Mr. Volakov said the Soviet Union highly appreciates King Hussein's efforts for convening an international conference to bring peace to the Middle East and considers such conference as the most effective means to save the region from the current whirlpool of tension.

Mr. Volakov, transport minister of Ukraine, said his country, in addition to continue to exert all possible efforts to convene this conference, would also continue to extend full support for the just struggle of the Arab Nation to help it regain its usurped land and to enable Arab people to live in peace and tranquillity.

Mr. Volakov said: "The leaders of the Arab Nation have reaffirmed at their recent summit in Amman their keenness on establishing a just and comprehensive peace at a time when Israel continues to show its hostile attitude towards any peace bid and continues to reject all initiatives and international resolutions that call for a withdrawal of its forces from Arab land."

Mr. Volakov also referred to talks in progress between Soviet and Iranian leaders, saying they

and

were

"not limited to discussion of some clauses of the treaty signed by the two countries in 1920."

Iran's Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani was quoted in an interview published last Wednesday by a Japanese newspaper that Iran was negotiating on a new defence treaty with the Soviet Union.

In 1979, the Iranian revolutionary regime unilaterally scrapped the Soviet-Iranian mutual defence pact of 1921.

Mr. Volakov said Tuesday that the current Soviet-Iranian contacts were aimed at discussing various articles in the 1921 treaty.

"These contacts can by no means affect the Soviet Union's stand vis-a-vis the Gulf war and will never change Moscow's call for an end to the conflict between Iran and Iraq and to safeguard the rights and territorial integrity of all the peoples of the Gulf region," Mr. Volakov said.

EC and Israel remain split over W. Bank exports

TEL AVIV (R) — The European Community (EC) and Israel remain split, despite a week of talks in Tel Aviv by experts, on the right of Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to market their agricultural produce independently to Europe, diplomatic sources said on Tuesday.

As a result, the European Parliament may delay ratification of an agreement lowering tariffs on key Israeli exports to the 12-nation community, they said.

Israel has protested to European governments that the two issues are unrelated and demanded immediate application of the tariff cuts, which affect lucrative sales of cut flowers, Israeli officials said.

Diplomats said Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had discussed the issue in talks in London, Brussels and Paris in the last

few days.

Under European pressure, Israel has agreed Palestinians may export fruit and vegetables with certificates of origin issued by local chambers of commerce in the occupied territories, instead of by Israel's government-owned marketing corporations.

EC Commissioner for Mediterranean Policy Claude Cheysson insisted during a visit to Israel last month that Palestinian exporters be free to choose who markets their produce in Europe.

But the sources said Israel still wanted it marketed by the government-run citrus marketing board and Agrexco corporation and had placed unacceptable conditions on any alternative.

In particular, the Israelis sought a guarantee that West Bank and Gaza produce would not undercut the prices of Israeli exports, they said.

Gemayel, von Weizsaecker discuss Lebanese situation

BONN (Agencies) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel on Tuesday met with West German President Richard von Weizsaecker to discuss efforts for peace and economic recovery in civil war-plagued Lebanon.

Mr. Gemayel arrived in West Germany Monday for a five-day visit with West German officials that will include stops in West Berlin and Munich.

West Germany would act with other West European countries to help build up the Lebanese economy once peace is restored, Dr. von Weizsaecker said at a meeting and luncheon with Mr. Gemayel and other officials.

Dr. von Weizsaecker said West Germany would continue to support Lebanon's freedom, independence and territorial integrity.

Dr. von Weizsaecker said during a speech at a banquet in Mr. Gemayel's honour that negotiations must begin between Lebanon and Israel.

non's various warring factions.

He added: "We know that the rebuilding of your country will require large financial means. We, together with our European partners, will do everything in our power to help rebuild your country once internal peace has been established."

Dr. von Weizsaecker reminded Mr. Gemayel that West German Rudolf Dörsch was still being held hostage in Lebanon. Mr. Dörsch was seized in west Beirut in January and is believed to be the prisoner of a group close to the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God).

Egypt's return to Arab fold is unlikely to shift Gulf balance

By Ashraf Fouad

Reuter

BAHRAIN — Egypt's strong return to the Gulf Arab scene has given a psychological boost to Gulf states but is unlikely to shift the balance of power against Iran, diplomats in the region say.

They said Egypt would be reluctant to intervene militarily in the Gulf war, raging for the last seven years between Iraq and Iran and threatening to spill over into neighbouring Arab states.

Egypt's military might — it is the most powerful Arab state with almost half a million men under arms — was a major factor why Gulf Arab states took the lead in restoring relations with Cairo.

Egypt was ostracised in the Arab World in 1979 for making peace with Israel but an Arab summit in Amman earlier this month gave the green light for renewing diplomatic links.

Iraq and other Gulf states quickly reopened ties, bolstered by a pledge of support from Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Mubarak promised to defend any of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states — Bahrain,

Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — if they were dragged into the conflict.

One senior Arab official in the Gulf said non-Arab Iran would think twice before attacking any of Iraq's Arab allies.

But Western diplomats think that, while Mr. Mubarak would be willing to give military aid to Gulf Arab states, he would be loath to commit troops to a war so far away from Egypt.

Iranian diplomats say they do not see a threat from Egypt.

They said Iran had not been intimidated by the superpower buildup of U.S. and Soviet fleets in the Gulf. One Iranian diplomat asked: "What can Egypt do if the West and the East failed?"

The war has been deadlocked for several years. But some military analysts think Iran, threatening a new offensive, could now

have an edge after buying fresh arms and Chinese ground-attack aircraft.

Egypt has the biggest trained army in the Arab World at 445,000 men, an air force of 500 combat planes and helicopters and a burgeoning arms industry.

Iran has roughly the same number of enlisted men but its air force, largely made up of U.S. aircraft bought before the Shah was toppled in 1979, has suffered from a shortage of spares.

Diplomats said the GCC states felt reassured to have Egypt back in the Arab camp.

The Saudi newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat, reflecting the thinking in Riyadh, said: "The presence of Egypt is a strength and a boost to the Arabs for its power, importance and capabilities."

Saudi Arabia has been at loggerheads with Tehran since riots involving Iranian pilgrims at Mecca during the Hajj pilgrimage this year and Kuwait has come under direct attack.

The Kuwaitis blamed Iran for firing Silkworm missiles which hit two tankers and an oil-loading terminal in October.

Western diplomats said Egypt could feel obliged to intervene

directly if Iran launched a ground attack against any of the GCC countries.

But the diplomats thought Iran had its hands full with Iraq and could not afford to open a new front.

Egypt's ties with Islamic rulers in Teheran are on the wrong foot when Cairo gave asylum to the fleeing Shah.

Egypt expelled the last Iranian diplomat earlier this year after accusing Tehran of financing anti-government Muslim fundamentalist groups.

Diplomats said the groundswell of pro-Egypt sentiment built up dramatically in the Gulf Arab states after the Mecca riots at the end of July.

Saudi Arabia accused Tehran of instigating the violence in which more than 400 people, mostly Iranian pilgrims, were killed.

Diplomats said the Saudis, who had taken a leading role in Arab affairs in the official absence of Egypt, had previously opposed efforts to bring Cairo back into the Arab fold.

"But the whole picture changed after Mecca," one diplomat concluded.

Poets laud Iraqi troops

BAGHDAD (R) — Hundreds of poets visiting Iraq were taken to the Gulf warfront and some read verse to gunners shelling Iranian positions, eyewitnesses said on Tuesday.

More than 2,000 poets and writers are attending a week-long international poetry festival. Culture and Information Minister Latif Nassif Jassem told them on Tuesday Iran was massing for a major offensive against Iraq.

"The Iranian regime is beating the drums of war once more to launch a new aggression against Iraq," he said.

"Iraq will stay strong and steadfast and the feet of its noble fighters shall trample on empty Iranian heads... we shall protect our land, our sovereignty, our independence."

Iraq is reported to have massed about 250,000 troops for an expected new offensive on Basra, Iraq's southern port city. Iraq now has a similar number of troops confronting the Iranians, diplomats here said.

The Mirdab Poetry Festival — named after one at the dawn of Islam in the seventh century — will move briefly to Basra, home of the ancient Mirdab, in a gesture of support for Iraq.

Leading Iraqi poet Abdul Razag Abdul Wahid won a \$30,000 prize Iraq awarded for the best poem from Iraqi, Arab and foreign poets at the Mirdab, the eighth since 1968.

Information Ministry buses on Monday drove several hundred poets 180 kilometres to the central Gulf warfront to see live shelling of Iranian positions.

Some Arab and foreign poets read verses of support for the Iraqi gunners, participants said.

Polisario defector meets U.N. team

EL AYOUN, Western Sahara (AP) — The highest-ranking defector from the Polisario guerrilla movement to reach the Moroccan controlled Western Sahara since the beginning of the bitter war over the territory was presented to a U.N. group.

He was Ramadan Ould Mohamad Nass, the Polisario's deputy chief in the diplomatic mission to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), former Polisario ambassador to Cuba, and credited with having persuaded numerous Latin American countries to recognise the Polisario as a legitimate liberation movement.

The group — a 15-nation technical mission to examine how to organise a referendum among the Western Sahara's inhabitants — arrived in the territorial capital Saturday and was due to fly to Algeria next week.

Morocco annexed the former Spanish colony following Spain's withdrawal in 1975, claiming that all the territory's 10 tribes traditionally paid homage to the Sultan of Morocco for centuries prior to the Spanish occupation in the early 1900's. A Spanish census numbered 75,000 inhabitants at the time of the withdrawal.

Neighbouring Algeria refused to recognise the Moroccan

full-ranking ambassador and influential member of the diplomatic corps in the Cuban capital, he said, he had "privileged contacts with Cuban intelligence services and learned their strategy of disinformation aimed at the African countries."

He said he managed to escape the surveillance of Polisario and Algerian security men in Tindouf about a month ago and fled across the Sahara to the Moroccan lines. He refused to give details about his escape to "avoid alerting" the Polisario and hinder other escapes in the future.

The other half of the population now lives in camps around the Algerian oasis of Tindouf. Western military experts say the Polisario has failed to gain a permanent foothold in any part of the territory.

The U.N. mission members have refused to make any comment to reporters. They are due to fly in their special U.N. plane to Nouakchott, capital of neighbouring Mauritania, at the end of the week and then to Tindouf to visit the Saharan population in the camps.

Nass said the Algerians have barred previous U.N. visits to the camps because they were afraid such visits would disclose that most of the residents of these camps — allegedly originating in the Western Sahara — were "in reality citizens of Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria and other desert fringe nations suffering from years of drought."

Nass, a stocky, Spanish-trained engineer, told reporters he was recruited by the Marxist-led Polisario while studying in Madrid as a young man. "They deceived me from the beginning," he said. "It took me 15 years to realise it."

While serving in Havana as a

Israel, U.S. discuss deal for 75 F-16s

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel and the United States have begun negotiating a deal to start supplying Israel with 75 U.S. F-16 jet fighters by 1991 at reduced prices, Defence Ministry Director General David Ivri said on

Tuesday.

Ivi returned from Washington after the first full U.S.-Israeli talks on strategic cooperation since Israel abandoned develop-

ment of its Lavi fighter project three months ago to buy cheaper American F-16s.

"We entered the first round of negotiations on the next purchase for shipments beginning in 1991."

"It is well known, I would say, that the administration is helping us to cut the price... and I believe the next deal will definitely be cheaper than the previous deal."

Ivi said the aircraft would in

any event be cheaper than the 75 F-16s Israel bought previously, since the new planes would require fewer changes to their engines to meet Israeli needs.

The Jerusalem Post said Ivi told Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin on his return that the new F-16s would cost Israel \$2 billion compared with at least \$4.8 billion it would have cost to develop and build 90 Lavis.

U.S. Jews urge Shultz to intervene in Awad case

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A group of American Jews sent a telegram to U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz Monday, urging the United States to convince Israel not to expel an Arab-American who advocates non-violent resistance to the Israeli occupation.

The Americans, all Israeli residents, asked Mr. Shultz to intervene on behalf of Mubarak Awad, 44, a Jerusalem-born Palestinian who holds U.S. citizenship.

Mr. Awad was ordered to leave the country last Friday upon the expiration of a three-month tourist visa, but he has defied the order and campaigned for support among Jews, Muslims and Christians.

The Israeli defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, indicated support for an interior ministry decision not to extend Dr. Awad's visa, but added there were no immediate plans to expel him.

Mr. Draper told reporters after the meeting that U.S. officials had complained to the Israeli government about the Awad case and would persist in their efforts.

Dr. Awad is known for his philosophy of non-violent resistance to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

passport," Mr. Rabin told AP in an interview. "But in the Awad case, he calls for civil disobedience to the military government and the territories administered by us. Why grant him another tourist visa or extend his current one?"

In the telegram presented to U.S. Consul Morris Draper, the American Jews told Mr. Shultz: "Muharrik Awad and others like him who were born here must enjoy the same freedom of movement between the U.S. and Israel that we do."

They also asked Mr. Shultz to convey their concern to the Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, currently visiting the United States.

Mr. Draper told reporters after the meeting that U.S. officials had complained to the Israeli government about the Awad case and would persist in their efforts.

Dr. Awad is known for his philosophy of non-violent resistance to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

UAE, British officials discuss Gulf developments

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The United Arab Emirates, current chairman of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), on Tuesday urged Britain and the European Community (EC) to help push through a U.N. Security Council resolution to end the Iran-Iraq war.

added.

Mr. Mellor, minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, arrived in the UAE capital of Abu Dhabi late Monday for two days of talks.

He was also meet officials in Dubai, the second largest of the seven-emirate UAE the son of the Dubai ruler, Sheikh Mubarak bin Rashid Al Maktoum, is the federation's defence minister.

In an arrival statement, Mr. Mellor told the Emirates News Agency (WAM) that the purpose of his first-ever visit to the UAE was to discuss current Gulf developments and efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war through implementation of U.N. Resolution 598.

Mr. Mellor also said British naval vessels and minesweepers, currently scanning the central Gulf waters for mines widely believed to have been laid by Iran, were aimed at securing freedom of navigation in the strategic waterway.

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Mousa Bashir 615487

Joseph Imseih 770560

Dr. Hisham Arkoub 892122

Dr. Abdellah Al Samouni 778525

Firas pharm 661467

Ferdows pharm 787326

Al Asena pharm 787055

Natoukh pharm 635672

Al Salam pharm 636730

EMERGENCIES

GENERAL

Amman governorate 891228

Jordan Television 773111/19

Radio Jordan 774111/19

Ministry of Tourism 643211

Hotel complaints 666412

Price complaints 661176

Telephone information 12

Jordan and Middle East calls 10

Overseas calls 17

Repair service 11

HOSPITALS

Hospital

Hussain Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalidi Maternity 644576

Akhlef Maternity 642417

Jabal Amman Maternity 642231

Mahas J. Amman 636140

Palestine Shmeisani 664171/4

Shmeisani Hospital 664195

University Hospital 845845

Al-Muasher Hospital 667277/9

The Islamic Hospital 666127/37

Al-Abdi, Abdal 664164/6

Italian Al-Muhajireen 775111/26

Al-Bashir, J. Arafah 771011/3

Araby, Marku 991611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50

Amal Hospital 674155

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

NIGHT DUTY

HOSPITALS

GENERAL

EMERGENCIES

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Ministry of Education sets exam, holiday dates

AMMAN (J.T.) Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi said Tuesday that the ministry has made new amendments to the regulations on school examinations and holidays for the school year 1987-1988.

Under these amendments the general secondary certificate examination, previously scheduled for Jan. 16, will now be held on Jan. 2, while school examinations for the compulsory and secondary ages will be held on Dec. 16.

The first term holiday starts on Dec. 24 and ends on Jan. 15, the minister added.

In an interview with Jordan television, Mr. Hindawi said that the amendments were made in response to the recommendations of the National Conference on Education, which received the royal attention and full support of His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

On the objectives of the amendments, Mr. Hindawi said that they are aimed at giving students the opportunity to participate in various activities and sports, organised and supervised by the Education Ministry, where they practice their hobbies. Opportunities for these activities will be provided through three long holidays during the holy year.

These breaks include: winter holiday, which will last three weeks; spring holiday, two weeks; and summer vacation, four months.

The second objective, Mr. Hindawi added, is to relieve students of the burden of constant examinations.

The Education Minister said that the new measures are also aimed to ease tension in students, resulting from the atmosphere of hard work and striving

for achievement at school. To ease such tension, the ministry has made an arrangement whereby students taking general examinations will take examinations every other day, thus giving them ample time to study. Moreover, students will have a week holiday before the examination to prepare.

In practical terms, this means that students will not be required to take the trial examinations, which are, to a great extent, the same as the Tawjih exam.

In addition to this, pupils will be required to take the examination at 9:00 a.m. instead of 8:00 a.m. as was the case in previous years, thereby giving them more time to sleep or prepare before the exam.

Mr. Hindawi said that the decision was made after lengthy, detailed studies, which took two years to complete. Throughout the process, he said, "the first interest was always the students."

In response to a question about the fears these changes might cause for Tawjih students, particularly as the examination date was moved up to Jan. 2 from Jan. 16, the minister said, "in practical terms, the examination has only been predicated four days not 11 days as students might think, because students were expected to take a seven-day trial examination, which was cancelled by the new amendment."

"On the contrary, students will benefit from these seven days, because it will be a holiday for them to study for the examination," Mr. Hindawi added.

Under the new amendments, the summer vacation was shortened to two months from three, while the spring holiday was created. The summer vacation will be from June 18 to Aug. 17.

Crown Prince calls for more attention to humanitarian issues in inter-faith dialogue

AMMAN (Petra) — The fourth Islamic-Christian consultation concluded here on Monday night with a call by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for more attention to the humanitarian issues that form the basic goals of dialogue.

In a speech at the closing session, the Crown Prince urged participants in the meeting to prepare for the fifth Islamic-Christian dialogue, scheduled to be held in Switzerland next year.

At the conclusion of its deliberations, the meeting reported on its recommendations, addressing Muslim-Christian coexistence and related issues.

The report said that discussions in Muslim-Christian coexistence throughout history were exceptions that occurred when one of the two parties attempted to

worship the letter of religious texts at the time when the country inhabited by both parties was exposed to a foreign invasion.

In addition, the report stressed that a peaceful Muslim-Christian coexistence was necessary for facing problems of the future.

The Crown Prince called on participants in the meeting to prepare for the fifth Islamic-Christian dialogue, scheduled to be held in Switzerland next year.

Also in the consultation's closing session, the participants sent cables of thanks to His Majesty King Hussein and the Crown Prince, expressing gratitude to them for their special attention to enriching the dialogue between the Islamic and Christian faiths.

Lower House endorses law for establishing judicial training academy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament on Tuesday unanimously endorsed a law for the establishment of Jordan's first-ever judicial academy responsible for the training of personnel to fill judiciary posts and upgrading the qualifications of judges and justices already working in public institutions.

The academy will enrol judicial personnel who carry a bachelors degree in law who have been working in the fields of law or legal consultancy for a minimum of two years, as well as personnel who have been occupying public judicial positions or performing clerical jobs in courts.

The academy will be an affiliate to the Ministry of Justice, and a seven-member council will supervise its activities and design its institutional policies.

The establishment of the academy, together with amendments to be introduced to the penal code and the Supreme Court, will complement the government's high-powered drive to modernise legislation and increase judicial efficiency.

Following the endorsement of the law by the Lower House, Justice Minister Riad Al Shaka'a said he expected the academy to be operational by mid-1988.

The academy will be set up after the 1987 law governing it passes through the legal cycle, which requires, now, an endorsement by the Upper House of Parliament and a Royal Decree approving the law.

Mr. Shaka'a said that after the law passes through the legislative cycle, "we have to complete all procedural measures for the academy's creation, including recruiting full-time professors, defining enrollment fees and design-management policies," before it becomes fully operational in a six months time.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Shaka'a refused to disclose the preliminary expenses for setting up the two-year training institute. However, he said he had asked the government for "an adequate sum" to cover the starting and early operational costs.

The academy's budget will be part of the ministry's annual budget. Other costs will be covered by special donations and student fees.

"The academy," according to Mr. Shaka'a, "is a breakthrough in Jordan's judicial history and will certainly upgrade the job qualifications of all those who implement the law."

"If laws are one of the basic needs for the development of a civilised community, the pillars of justice go beyond these laws to cover the judicial apparatus and personnel, who have to be specialised, well-informed and experienced in order to realise the goals behind these laws," Mr.

He said that words and phrases included in the cables which His Majesty received from Arab leaders and foreign heads of state were a true manifestation of their true appreciation to the King's patience, wisdom, intelligence and heroism. "I pray that God will bless King Hussein in all steps he makes to make the Amman summit resolutions a total success."

Mr. Shaka'a said that the symposium will also discuss the EC's relations with the countries of the Middle East.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily, published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

جورنال تايمز - جريدة عربية مستقلة صدرت لأول مرة في 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Hopes of faith

THE fourth session of the Islamic-Christian consultation concluded here Monday evening amidst renewed hopes that the groundwork laid by participants so far would one day grow into a greater and more broadly-based dialogue between the two faiths and that this dialogue and cooperation would soon encompass Judaism — the other major monotheistic religion. There is no doubt that the success achieved thus far on the long road to greater tolerance and deeper understanding, based on mutual respect and understanding between Christianity and Islam, will reach new heights in the next phases of the dialogue. We hope, as well, that this dialogue and this understanding move beyond the level of official theology to become a facet of popular interaction between the Muslim and Christian masses. Certainly, this process, at one stage or another, will necessitate rooting out elements of hatred and animosity that still permeate the Muslim and Christian masses. And there is no better way to accomplish this task than by erasing all of the ill-conceived historical references and misinterpretations which contain the seeds of religious intolerance and stereotyping.

As we salute the eminent participants in the Amman gathering and commend them for their unwavering efforts to encourage harmony and tolerance between their respective congregations, we also look forward to the day when theologians and high level representatives from all Christian and Islamic sects and denominations will meet under one roof, preferably in the holy city of Jerusalem, to mark the summit of the two religions and crown the success of the ongoing effort. There is no doubt in our minds that when the fifth session of the Islamic-Christian dialogue is convened in Geneva next year, much progress will be made towards the achievement of our mutual aspirations for peace and justice in confronting the forces of evil and destruction.

The modern age has provided many examples of religion being exploited for unholy purposes. From Lebanon to Iran and Northern Ireland, religion has been manipulated by different forces for political goals, and the high price that we pay for this manipulation continues to drain our resources and the fundamental values of human relations that we cherish. Such manipulation serves nobody except the destructive forces in these communities and results in a cycle of conflict and violence, virtually uncontrollable once the fire of hatred ignites. We must not allow this cycle to continue and threaten the little chance that may be left for peaceful coexistence.

The Israeli threats to Jerusalem's character and the extremist brand of revolutionary religion practised by the mullahs of Tehran are real explosive threats to the region and its peoples. We hope that our neighbours to the west and to the east will realise the magnitude of these threats before the chance for peaceful coexistence is lost forever.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King pursues reconciliation

IT is natural for the Arab masses to watch with confidence and satisfaction King Hussein's coming visits to Damascus and Baghdad because they are needed to help promote the process of normalising relations between them. This process started at the extraordinary Arab summit meeting in Amman and in fact it was one of the most fruitful results of that meeting. But the three capitals: Amman, Damascus and Baghdad are all keen on implementing the summit's resolutions and to carry out its recommendations and anything that is useful and beneficial for a sound Arab march. According to Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri who revealed the news about the King's coming visit, the three Arab states are, like the other sister Arab countries, keen on helping to end the on-going Gulf conflict. For this reason the Arabs are now embarking on implementing the summit's resolutions and are taking steps to reconsider their relations with any country that sells arms to Iran. If the Arabs are serious in their endeavour, they will regain a strong credibility within the world community; and will no doubt help to put an end to the seven-year-old conflict. Mr. Masri said that Jordan will remain committed to the Palestine cause and will continue to regard the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He said that for the Palestine question to be resolved, the U.N. should invite the PLO to take part in the peace process on equal footing with the other parties. Mr. Masri's statement and the news they contained brought about relief to the Arab masses in general and the Jordanian people in particular.

Al Dustour: King reiterates stand

AT a meeting with a visiting Soviet friendship delegation, King Hussein re-emphasised Jordan's firm stand with regard to national questions. He said that Jordan believes that the only way of achieving peace lies in convening an international conference which will allow all parties to the conflict to take part on equal footing. Secondly, Jordan continues to back international efforts for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to end the Gulf war. The leader of the Soviet delegation in reply reiterated his country's continued support for the King's efforts and Jordan's moves towards resolving the Middle East problem by peaceful means. He said that Moscow and Amman hold identical views on a host of world issues in general and the Palestine question and the Gulf conflict in particular. He said that Moscow wants an end to the Gulf war so that peace and security can be safeguarded around the world. We deeply appreciate the Soviet Union's stand and support for the Arab just causes and we hope that Moscow will pursue its efforts to put an end to regional conflicts and help the Palestinians regain their legitimate rights in their homeland.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan stands firm

KING Hussein has reiterated Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the issues of the Middle East during his meeting on Monday with the visiting Soviet friendship delegation. This Jordanian stand actually reflects the Arab Nation's stand as crystallised at the Amman summit meeting earlier this month and which call for the establishment of a genuine and lasting peace in the Middle East an end to the Gulf conflict. In fact this Jordanian stand has won the support and appreciation of many countries and the Arab Nation at large. Jordan under the leadership of King Hussein has succeeded in winning over credibility to the Arab Nation through the Amman summit which advocated the convening of an international conference to solve the Middle East question and the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to end the Gulf war by peaceful means. The Soviet Union is one of the major world nations which has been supporting Jordan's endeavours and this friendly nation has been displaying continued support for the Arab stand over the past years and voicing condemnation of aggression against the Arab World.

Independent Humanitarian Commission wins U.N. support

By Dr. Waleed Sadi



Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan
Humanitarian Order would be completed and become ready for final adoption and signature. When such an objective materialises it would be the culmination of over six years of dedicated and relentless efforts spearheaded by the special endeavours of Prince

new international humanitarian order will bring into fruition the dream and vision of Prince Hassan which had found expression in his earlier courageous and enlightened crusade on behalf of the affected peoples before the General Assembly back in 1981. While we in Jordan will most certainly take the greatest pride and infinite satisfaction from the fact that Prince Hassan has been all along the principal driving force behind the on-going efforts to translate the dreams of mankind into a reality, the peoples and groups of persons who will come within the scope and purview of the new humanitarian order will rejoice even more when they find that their dire situations which have been neglected for so long will finally be addressed and addressed properly and meaningfully.

Hopes of faith

FORTY ONE United Nations member states recently submitted a draft resolution to the General Assembly containing an expression of deep appreciation and gratitude to the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues and its Chairman Crown Prince Hassan and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan for their dedicated and relentless efforts to promote the unfinished cause of humanitarian endeavours worldwide. The proposed resolution which is expected to be adopted unanimously before the end of the on-going session of the General Assembly also asks the Independent Commission to transmit its final report to the member states of the United Nations and to the U.N. specialised programmes and agencies as well as to non-governmental organisations concerned with humanitarian issues for their examination

and scrutiny. The draft resolution further asks the U.N. secretary general to maintain contacts with governments, the U.N. specialised programmes and agencies and the concerned non-governmental organisations with a view to submitting to the forthcoming session of the General Assembly a progress report on the basis of the information and views submitted to the secretary general by the various sides whose views and ideas were solicited. In the final operative paragraph of the draft resolution mention is made of the need to examine the subject of establishing a new international humanitarian order at the next session of the General Assembly of the U.N.

It will be recalled that the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues was established by a U.N. resolution unanimously adopted in 1981

to examine the subject of establishing a new international

Humanitarian Order would be completed and become ready for final adoption and signature. When such an objective materialises it would be the culmination of over six years of dedicated and relentless efforts spearheaded by the special endeavours of Prince

South Yemen's new leaders seeking legitimacy

By Liesl Graz

MUCH can be understood about Democratic Yemen 20 months after the bloody events of January 1986 by a careful study of the current iconography. No portraits of living leaders, neither President Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas nor Yemeni Socialist party first secretary, Ali Salim Al Bayhd, can be seen on office walls or the innumerable posters. In their place stand omnipresent quadriglyphs with portraits of the four "official martyrs" always in the same order, from right to left, Abd Al Fattah Ismail, Ali Antar, Salih Muslih Qasim and Ali Shaye. Four dead heroes cannot be rivals and that holds true particularly for Abd Al Fattah Ismail — chief martyr and new patron saint of what has become the Fattah Socialist Youth Union. The circumstances of his death were (and remain) so mysterious that his widow refused to attend the memorial service; in other Muslim countries, of course, that would be normal, but in Aden it was a significant political gesture.

The political bureau's headquarters has been turned into a shrine.

The political bureau's headquarters, where the shooting broke out, has been turned into a shrine with every overturned chair and bloodstain on the carpet preserved for visitors. Ali Antar's shelled house, too, is part of the pilgrimage, complete with 40 unexploded RPGs lined up in the garden. Eerily, visitors are invited to call on the bereaved family in the other unscathed (or perfectly repaired) side of the house where an 18-year-old son of the former tenant recites his lesson, staring into the middle distance. The third station of the pilgrimage is Abd Al Fattah Ismail's house, where the guide begins by explaining that Abd Al Fattah moved into the house on 30 November 1967, the very day Aden was celebrating independence. Ashes and relics are carefully glassed over within the rebuilt walls: the house was shelled, mostly from the sea, on the first day of fighting by ships loyal to Ali Nasser Mohammad. Finally comes the Aden clock tower, just behind the house, with hands stopped at 10.20, taken as the official beginning of the coup; that too — a painted clock face — is part of the symbolism.

The problem of legitimacy affects all three of the interlocking circles of South Yemen's major concerns: Internal stability, inter-Yemeni relations and Arab and international relations on a larger scale. For the present leaders, establishing their legitimacy is particularly important since, in strict legal terms, Ali Nasser's claim to the presidency has not been invalidated, not even by the party congress in June. The congress did lead to some consolidation, which in turn made the four-day meeting of the People's Assembly in mid-September possible. One of the Assembly's acts was to confirm the exclusion from the politburo of the foreign minister, Abd Al Aziz Al Dali, a rare (and able) survivor from Ali Nasser's last government. Other ministerial moves have been given diverse political interpretations, but behind the jockeying for position there are the germs of another power struggle. Two figures are tipped as the coming men: Salim Salih Mohammad, now deputy party secretary, and Mohammad Abdullah Said, known as "Muhsin," ex-minister of state security and presently secretary of the central committee, and originally from North Yemen. Both are considered tough, ruthless and personally ambitious.

es like the North (implying above all: Has the same sort of relationship with the Soviet Union). Chances for a reasonable compromise in the near future are slim, even though there have been hints that North Yemen might try to force the pace with a unilateral declaration of unity, which would be extremely embarrassing to the South.

The international implications have not changed. There are no signs that Saudi Arabia would be any happier than in the past to have a unified Yemen, with a population of ten million and oil revenues beginning to come in on its borders, nor does the Soviet Union relish the idea of a Yemen that could possibly decide to dispense with its presence and, unit, probably get away with it.

Oddly, the fact that Ali Nasser Mohammad and close to 65,000 of his followers are in the North, does not seem to create a major supplementary stumbling block. Both sides seem to treat that presence simply as a vagary of

Chances for a reasonable compromise [to unite the two Yemens] are slim.

history. It is almost certain that during his September visit to San'a, President Haidar Al Attas did not meet Ali Nasser, even secretly as was suggested.

North Yemen has asked the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for assistance in taking care of 55,000 "displaced persons" — they are not called refugees. That number does not include 8,000 or more young men who might reasonably be considered members of Ali Nasser's armed force. Meanwhile South Yemen announced the extension to the end of 1987 of amnesty for those who can prove their innocence. Representatives of the North Yemen government, as of the displaced persons themselves, would like more clarification. Where does that leave, for example, minor police officials who say they were acting on orders, and, especially, members of their families?

Those few points of cooperation established between the two Yemens before January 1986 remain pretty much intact.

delivered practically nothing, besides some help in building a housing estate duly named "Omar Al Mukhtar." The Yemenis often oppose Libya in the Arab League and they have not yet quite forgiven Libya's siding with Ali Nasser in 1986. The present relationship can be gauged by the fact that in early September the South Yemenis permitted their residents to hold anti-Libya meetings, but carefully refrained from taking any official part.

With Ethiopia, a neighbour

and the other friend of the USSR in the region, the situation is more complex. Ethiopia, too,



the other Socialist countries were easy to convince after the coup and the new leaders had to do a great deal of travelling last year to explain their point of view. The Soviet Union, after its hesitation during the fighting, did not formally condemn Ali Nasser until December 1986. Even now it seems wary — and most of the other socialist countries remain very much on their guard. The East Germans have been particularly outspoken; they were instrumental in getting prisoners, like Mrs. Fathia Abdulla, former head of the Women's Union, freed; and when the official communists beat up on "Ali Nasser and his fascist gang," they intervened, saying, in effect: You don't know what a fascist is. It is difficult to know how much their judgement may be affected by the fact that those who used to be considered the "real Communists" are either dead or, like the sons of Abdullah Badib, the party founder, are in the North, while most of those collective leadership did go to Addis Ababa for the proclamation of the democratic

The trilateral pact with Libya and Ethiopia is dead in fact.

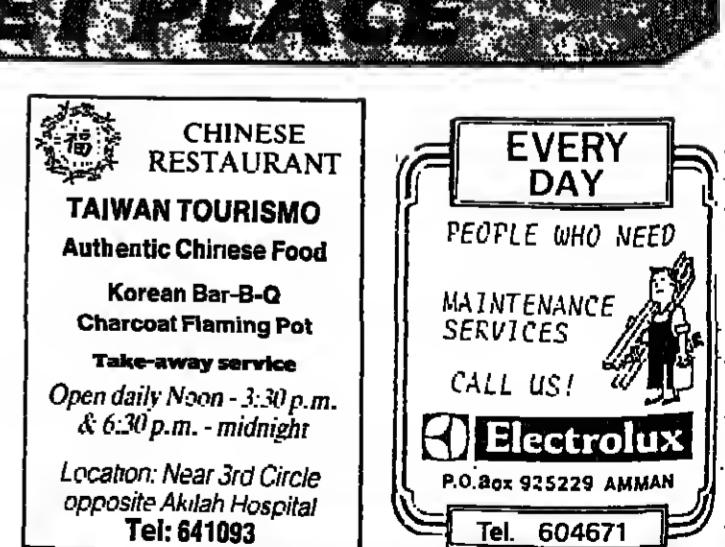
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With Ethiopia, a neighbour and the other friend of the USSR in the region, the situation is more complex. Ethiopia, too,

The Soviet Union, even now, seems wary.

republic in Ethiopia.

Finally, there is the position of the Soviet Union. Neither it nor

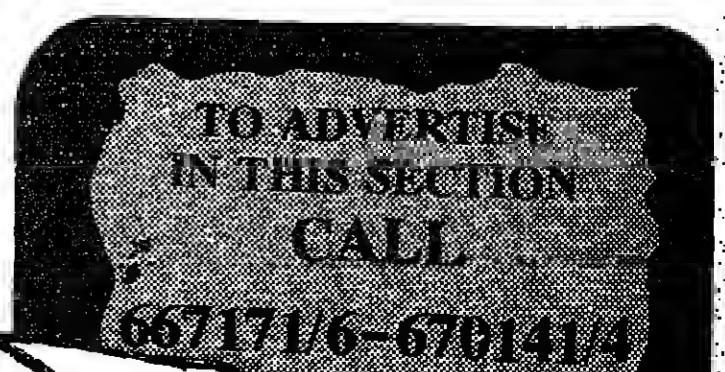


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The downtown area of Armero as it looked immediately after the disaster (File photo)

New city rises in shadow of killer volcano

By Charles Lambelin

Reuter

ARMERO, Colombia — Vegetation has started to grow again on the crusted mud that covers the once bustling white city of Armero like a giant tombstone.

In nearby Lerida, a new town is springing up in the shadow of the Nevado del Ruiz volcano whose violent eruption killed an estimated 25,000 people two years ago.

The eruption on November 13, 1985, melted the snow-capped top of the 5,400-metre mountain, sending an avalanche of mud and rocks thundering 50 kilometres down onto the town lying in a green valley below.

Pathetic images of mud-caked survivors, including a photo of a woman known as "the Venus of mud" and the agony of 13-year-old Omaira Sanchez who died after being buried up to her neck for three days, prompted a wave of international aid for Colombia.

The site now looks like a dry river bed, studded by hundreds of plain wooden crosses planted over the former houses. A few skulls and bones have surfaced since the disaster and lie next to the crosses.

The surface has hardened like cement and it is possible to walk across the crust of volcanic ash, rocks and dried mud that covers more than 3,000 hectares.

In the first few months after the tragedy, the blanket of mud slowly sank and released hundreds of mummified bodies, like that of a motorcyclist engulfed by the avalanche. Both rider and machine were converted into statues of clay.

Where the centre of the town stood, a big cement cross was erected for the brief visit by Pope John Paul II, in July last year. Around the cross, a few tombstones have been built. Busloads of tourists visit the area.

Among them, with a statue of Buddha and a bouquet of yellow flowers, is a monument to Omaira, erected with money sent by Japanese children who were touched by her agony.

In the centre of the city which once had 40,000 inhabitants, the only thing that stood through the disaster was a two-metre high

concrete cube — the vault holding the local bank's money.

A huge stone, as big as a house, rolled down the mountain and came to a stop a few hundred metres away.

Two years after the disaster, many of the 22,000 homeless and the local press complain that part of the international aid never reached its intended beneficiaries.

A couple placing flowers on the tomb of their daughter, Emalina Perdomo, concurred with the general view that somewhere along the line, some people put money "in their pockets." A survivor complained that the state aid, equal to \$22 a month, was cut after seven months.

The Perdomos complained that no church or chapel had been built here, forcing the priest from a nearby parish to celebrate his weekly mass in the open air.

In December 1985, the government decreed Armero a national monument to be converted into a "national park of hope" and said a chapel and a monument would be built in the memory of the buried city and its dead.

If little has been done in Armero, at Lerida 13 kilometres to the south, a new town is being built.

Variously called "Lerida two" or "new Armero," the new town will have a regional hospital built by the Red Cross societies of United States, Canada, Japan and Spain.

In Lerida itself, a quiet little town of the Tolima province with a white-washed church and dusty streets, the army built a stadium and sports centre paid for by military personnel who offered the equivalent of one-day's salary.

Major Julio Cesar Hernandez told Reuters that 2,500 houses had been completed in the district of Lerida built by a dozen charity organisations from various countries.

He said the population had grown from about 4,000 two years ago to 24,000 now.

"Such an influx of population was bound to create problems. The biggest one is unemployment as Lerida has little to offer and there is no money. Most survivors

arrived with nothing," Hernandez said.

A few workshops making shoes and textiles have been set up at the entrance of Lerida. They provide jobs for 50.

Meanwhile, the government is watching the volcano closely to avoid another catastrophe.

The most recent alert came last June when the government warned of an unusual increase in seismic activity after a column of steam and emission of ashes was registered in nearby cities.

It asked the population to take precautions but said there was no need to evacuate.

Instruments now monitor the Nevado de Ruiz and readings are automatically transmitted to an observatory 32 kilometres away.

To warn of possible mud flows, Japanese vulcanologists have rigged cables across valleys. If the cables break, they will transmit warning signals to the observatory.

Despite the danger and warnings by scientists that new eruptions are possible, thousands of farmers continue to live in the high risk area. Only a few have abandoned their farms.



A rescue worker rushes a child covered in mud to a medical centre outside Armero (File photo)

Strong signs of planet-like object orbiting nearby star

By Lee Siegel
The Associated Press

PASADENA, California — Scientists disappointed by earlier efforts to find planets outside the solar system said Tuesday they detected strong signs that a large, Jupiter-like object orbits a star 270 trillion miles (435 trillion kilometres) from Earth, nearby by astronomical standards.

"The thing is big but hot. Whatever it is, it's not a star," said Ben Zuckerman, an astronomy professor at the University of California at Los Angeles.

"We think the most likely explanation of what we found is a brown dwarf — a planet-like object roughly the size of Jupiter (but larger) and with twice the surface temperature of Venus," he said. "It is the 10th planet-like object we know of in the universe" besides the nine planets in our solar system.

Other astronomers presented less direct evidence that planets may exist around several other stars.

Scientists previously identified

about three dozen stars encircled by flattened disks of dust, some of which appear to be solar systems in the early, pre-planetary stages of formation.

In June, Bruce Campbell of British Columbia's Dominion Astrophysical Observatory announced he found indirect evidence for possible planets orbiting Epsilon Eridani, Gamma Cephei and five other stars.

Supposedly strong evidence of a planet-like object outside the Earth's own solar system was revealed a several years ago when University of Arizona researchers thought they detected a brown dwarf orbiting the star Van Biesbroeck 8. The discovery turned to disappointment when other astronomers could not confirm the observation.

The discovery by Zuckerman and Becklin is "the best evidence

at the moment for an object that's not burning hydrogen" and thus is not a star, said planetary scientist Dave Stevenson of the California Institute of Technology.

"It could be a planet because it is much less massive and is quite close to the white dwarf it is orbiting around."

Stevenson described the object as a gaseous body "like Jupiter, only more massive."

"There is definitely something out there," said University of Arizona planetary scientist Jonathan Lunine, co-moderator of Oct. 10's session on "extrasolar planets."

He said the evidence for the object orbiting Giclas 29-38 is "fairly convincing" and much more direct than that for Campbell's possible planets or for the brown dwarf once thought to orbit Van Biesbroeck 8.

Arthur Miller says he has survived and that is pretty good

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuter

NEW YORK — Arthur Miller came out of the depression, tried in a dozen plays to stir the country's soul, was hauled before Congress for being un-American and almost lost his grip in a tortured marriage to Marilyn Monroe.

In a strong, gravelly voice that belies his years, he says he has survived and, considering the odds, that's not bad.

"You know when you get to be 72 years and a lot of stuff has gone by, you feel it is amazing you are still here. I haven't slowed down although I am sure it is coming," Miller said at his New York apartment, a tiny warren of rooms on Manhattan's east side.

He has just published his autobiography, "Timebends", a 600-page book that avoids chronological detail in favour of letting one memory flood into another, evoking as he says "time's fade-outs and fade-ins and cross-fades."

In the book, a Harlem boyhood leads to a scary walk there 50 years later, a visit to the goddesses' sculptures at Angkor Wat brings him to Marilyn Monroe and how he once told her, "You're the saddest girl I've ever met."

"Marilyn first thought this was a defeat men, she had said once,

only wanted happy girls. But then a smile touched her lips as she discovered the compliment I had intended."

In his apartment, Miller insists: "My memory isn't that great. But what is there is etched in and if I remember it at all, I remember it in detail. I wrote this book like I wrote 'Death of a Salesman':"

Miller is in "Timebends" says that he wanted "Salesman", his most famous play, to "cure through time like a knife through a layer cake or a roar through a mountain revealing its geologic layers... display past and present concurrently, with neither one ever coming to a stop."

"Timebends" does that and a bit more. It recalls a lot of people who helped and a lot who hurt.

Central to the book is his four-year marriage to Monroe, a period that seemed to say him of his strength, leaving him drained and alone in the Nevada desert. Monroe drove off in one car and he in another.

It had been a union of the premier American intellectual and the country's star sex symbol. According to Miller's memory, it was doomed from the start.

Always there were crowds, including the ghosts of Monroe's destructive childhood who haunted and crippled her.

As a gift to her, Miller wrote the screenplay for "The Misfits". It was the only thing he wrote

committee, including Lee J. Cobb, who was the first to play the salesman, Willy Loman, and Elia Kazan, who directed the play that became an American classic.

Miller could not talk to Kazan for years because he had testified and named names. But he still holds him and Cobb in high professional regard.

"Cobb was the greatest of the actors to play Willy. You know that I pictured Willy as a small man, the size of Dustin Hoffman who gave a fine performance as Willy (in a recent revival). But Lee brought that bulk of his to the role."

Miller calls himself an outsider in American theatre. He is not happy at the state of playwriting or producing, thinking that Broadway has lost its audience, if not its soul.

He also thinks that his works are usually detected at first sight by the critics and kept alive by dedicated actors and directors around the world.

"I was only a stranger in the theatre, the man bringing in the news from the outside world. I always thought theatre should expand itself, deal with the larger questions. Instead it became inward."

Miller then added: "I never wrote anything good that didn't make me blush because you are revealing yourself. Without pain, there is no creation."

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Sixty Years of Hospitality 1927-1987

U.S. writer risks life as disguised Mexican alien

By Susan Ellicott

Reuter

NEW YORK — Blue eyes hidden beneath a baseball cap, blond hair under a hooded sweatshirt, Ted Conover crossed the Rio Grande River on a yellow inflatable raft.

Disguised as one of the millions of Mexican "Wetbacks," illegal workers who slip across the river frontier between Mexico and Texas to flee poverty and earn American dollars, the Denver writer paid \$20 to be smuggled into his own country and found work on an orange grove in Arizona.

From the southwest state he travelled for one year with the Mexican aliens, clinched nighttime deals with unscrupulous Mexican border bandits, earned \$1.15 for each 80-pound sack of citrus fruit he picked and survived a pistol ambush.

"I wondered at a couple of points why I would be that casual with my life," he says. "It would have been cheaper to do it the easy way — to get a cab across the bridge."

The reason, the 29-year-old former student of anthropology says, was to tell people how "wetbacks" — many of whom escape their homeland by swimming across the Rio Grande — are changing the face of America. He told his story in his recently

published "Coyotes" (Vintage Departures), whose title comes from the Spanish slang word for people who smuggle Mexicans across the U.S. border.

The Mexicans are inspired by the same dreams that brought other people to this nation, he says, people like his own great-grandfather who left Norway "to make a new life by doing this nation's work."

"Unskilled immigrants flowing in here to work their tails off (are) in the finest American tradition," he says.

The Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) estimates that about five million undocumented Mexicans are currently living in the United States, having fled the impoverished interior of their homeland in search of work from a previous trip in search of work.

— How Timoteo leaps in shock at Los Angeles airport when he sees automatic doors, the first he has ever seen, his open.

— How Carlos stumbles on a new language when trying to compliment an American girl friend on her perfume. "I love the way you stink," he offers gallantly.

It also tells the traumas of immigrant life.

One young Mexican, returning fatigued from pizzas and hamburgers to his dusty village after several years in America, is not recognised by his own father. "To do that you have to speak Spanish, take time and get your hands dirty," he says. "I happen

to like all of that. It makes me feel alive."

Blond and clean-cut, Conover says his "all-American looks" could have made the Mexicans across the U.S. border.

Peasant women mourn husbands who never return — killed in unreported accidents, at work or remarried into a new life.

For Conover, readjusting to his former lifestyle was almost as awkward.

"The hardest thing was to get on close personal terms with the Mexicans," Conover recalls. "But my best disguise is being with these guys who treated me like one of them."

"Coyotes" tells with humour how Emilio, Maximo, Moises and Pancho drive a 1970 Ford station wagon 2,500 miles from California to Florida without a map, having memorised the route from a previous trip in search of work.

They beat up the Coyote, tortured one Mexican, and asked Conover who would miss him if he never arrived at the other side.

"I've never invented so many influential relatives in so short a time," he says, now able to joke about how he imagined he would be bumped in a ditch, a bullet through his head.

Today he is settled in Denver, writing a novel loosely based on his experiences, "happy to have my own telephone, my own bed" after a year under 163 different roofs.

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Kasparov loses 16th tie, Karpov back in contention

The tug-of-war continues with 8 battles to go

SEVILLE, Spain (R) — Reigning chess champion Garry Kasparov resigned the 16th game of his title defence on Tuesday without resuming play, putting challenger Anatoly Karpov back in contention to regain the crown he held from 1975 to 1985.

Kasparov, 24, sealed his 41st win — he's been in this situation before," Norwegian grandmaster Simen Agdestein told Reuters.

But French international master Aldo Haik said Karpov was now a slight favourite as Kasparov has been unable to develop a consistent match plan with the white pieces.

Danish international master Bjarke Kristensen said: "Now we have an eight-game match for the title — that's great. But then why have we been here for the past two months?"

Karpov found his match plan of playing safe with the advantage of the first move and trying to get Karpov to overpress when white had been upset, and lashed out in an attempt to win.

Chess experts were still unable to determine who objectively held the better position as a result of Kasparov's wild complications.

But Karpov showed his remarkable defensive abilities, brushing aside dangerous attacks and somehow emerging with an extra pawn.

Kasparov continued to muddy the waters at a time when grandmasters felt he should have tried to force an inferior endgame.

Despite having little time left on the clock, Karpov reached the end of the session with a huge advantage — one pawn ahead and with vastly more active pieces.

Kasparov's play was met with criticisms that he spent too much time on extracurricular distractions and not enough on chess.

Experts compared the match situation to the previous encounter in Leningrad last year, where Kasparov frittered away a three-point lead before recovering to win by a single point.

Kasparov... the reigning king

"Kasparov will probably still win — he's been in this situation before," Norwegian grandmaster Simen Agdestein told Reuters.

But French international master Aldo Haik said Karpov was now a slight favourite as Kasparov has been unable to develop a consistent match plan with the white pieces.

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— by the odd goal in 13.

Facing 1987 Soviet champions Spartak Moscow three weeks ago, Werder overcame a 4-1 away deficit and finally took the tie with an enthralling 6-2 extra time victory.

Their appetite for excitement was clearly not satisfied because last Saturday they threw away a 4-1 lead over amateurs Wolfsburg with two minutes to play of a domestic cup match. Werder's blushes were finally spared with a 5-4 extra time win.

Bremen trainer Otto Rehhagel would not be averse to another avalanche of goals this time — as

long as they are all picked out of the net by Dynamo keeper Otar Gabelia.

But Rehhagel does not underestimate the task of breaking down a defence built around veteran sweeper, Alexander Chivadze.

"He is the brains of the team and a brilliant organiser at the back," he said.

Werder can no longer rely on the goals of Rudi Voeller, now with As Roma, but Frank Ordenevitz has proved a more than able replacement, scoring nine times in the league this season.

Bremen will be relieved to welcome back gifted sweeper Gunar Sauer after a knee injury.

Sauer, widely tipped to fill Franz Beckenbauer's old role in the team before long, should help to plug the gaps which have been all too apparent in recent games.

But Toronto's Razor Ruddock says he's "more impressed he's getting in the ring with me."

Ruddock, was scheduled to fight Tillis in a 10-round in Halifax Tuesday night, vaulted onto the world scene in August

1986 with a win over former champion Mike Weaver.

"The (The weaver) fight was the biggest fight of my career, bigger than this one," said Ruddock.

Ruddock has a 17-1 record

and last lost three years ago to Dave Jacobs. Most observers feel a win over Tillis would move him closer to a possible title shot against the unbeaten Tyson.

"If I win they tell me I'll go against Tim Witherspoon and then I'll get Tyson," said Ruddock, whose given name is Donovan.

The fight is part of a promotion dubbed the night of the heavyweight and includes a co-feature involving Trevor Berbick,

the former Canadian and World Champion who once fought out of Halifax. Berbick takes on

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Experts forecast sluggish growth in West Germany

BONN (R) — Economic experts predicted on Monday that the West German economy would grow only moderately in 1988, but they generally backed Bonn's refusal to do more for expansion by bringing forward tax cuts due in 1990.

The "five wise men," an independent council of advisers to the government, said Europe's biggest economy would only expand by around 1½ per cent in both 1988 and 1987.

This is below the official forecast for 1988 of around 2½ per cent growth and two senior ministers promptly said the report was too pessimistic.

Economics Minister Martin Bangemann and Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said in a joint statement: "The government believes that a result for growth is possible that could be above the rate (1½ per cent) expected by the council."

Despite the latest crisis on the financial markets and the sharp decline in the value of the dollar, the council said it saw no signs of a recession.

However, it added: "It would be different if there were new (market) turbulence. In that case the economic expectations would probably have to be revised down sharply."

Foreign governments, as well as domestic economists, bankers and industrialists, have said West Germany should speed up its

1990 tax reform in a move to stimulate demand at home and cut international trade imbalances.

But only one of the five university professors in the council supported this call, which Bonn has already ruled out.

The report quoted Professor Ruediger Pohl, whose views reflect those of the opposition Social Democratic Party, as saying growth in the medium term had to be strengthened because the weak rate of growth would continue in 1988.

"This suggests that — contrary to the opinion of the majority of the council — the tax reform should be implemented as soon as possible," Dr. Pohl said.

Dr. Pohl was also alone in urging the West German central bank, the Bundesbank, to pursue its expansionary monetary policies which have helped stem a too sharp rise in the mark.

The other four professors said the Bundesbank should wind back expansion of money supply in a bid to stave off future inflationary dangers.

West Germany is likely to face calls at any new meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrial democracies for even more expansionary monetary policies.

The council of experts said in the report that, at such a meeting, West Germany would have to make a major contribution.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.7770/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3130/40	Canadian dollar
	1.6825/32	West German marks
	1.8930/40	Dutch guilders
	1.3810/20	Swiss francs
	35.18/21	Belgian francs
	5.7040/65	French francs
	1237/1238	Italian lire
	135.33/43	Japanese yen
	6.0730/80	Swedish crowns
	6.4550/4600	Norwegian crowns
	6.4550/4900	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	476.50/477.00	

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares were higher in modest afternoon trading here, extending their morning gains after news of interest rate cuts in West Germany, France and The Netherlands.

Dealers said the rise in the dollar, which followed the interest rate news, boosted the leading U.K. exporters. Tuesday's sizeable early gain on Wall Street similarly gave the wider market a lift. By 1512 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 33.1 to 190.8.

The market was encouraged by the interest rate cuts, which some dealers suggested were coordinated and could mean any forthcoming group of seven industrialised nations meeting might agree on interest rate and currency stabilisation.

But not many expect a near-term cut in U.K. base lending rates. Dealers said Britain was unlikely to sanction domestic interest rate cut before a G-7 meeting.

News that the U.K. current account deficit was only £82 million in October, compared with the unexpectedly low shortfall of £55 million in September, gave the market some short-lived support around midday, dealers said. Analysts had forecast the October deficit would be between £300 million and £350 million.

THE Daily Crossword



Ortega warns rebels against returning without amnesty

MANAGUA (R) — President Daniel Ortega warned Nicaraguan rebel leaders on Monday against flying to Managua on Tuesday to deliver their reply to his ceasefire proposals without first accepting amnesty from the Sandinistas.

Mr. Ortega spoke after the U.S.-backed Nicaraguan Resistance announced that two contra leaders would fly to Managua on Tuesday to present mediator Cardinal Miguel Obando Y. Bravo with their reply to Mr. Ortega's 11-point ceasefire proposal.

Contra spokeswoman Marisa Leal said in San Jose that Azucena Ferrey and Alfonso Robles would deliver the contra response at midday on Tuesday, but she declined to give further details for security reasons.

"If these people want to arrive in Nicaragua they must accept amnesty," Mr. Ortega told a news conference held jointly with visiting Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguineti.

Mr. Ortega declined to say what his government would do to the leaders if they defied the amnesty order, although he has previously threatened to jail rebels who return without first returning their armed struggle.

The contras said they planned to hand Cardinal Obando their response to the ceasefire plan put forward by Mr. Ortega in

Washington nearly two weeks ago.

The cardinal, a harsh critic of the Sandinistas since they took power in 1979, has been accepted as mediator by both the government and the rebels. But he has declined to officially accept the role of middleman before hearing the rebel reply.

The cardinal has suggested the talks take place in Managua, a site favoured by the contras. But the Sandinista government has insisted the talks be held in Washington, which it accuses of having instigated the rebel movement.

The Nicaraguan government has also argued that the arrival of contra leaders in Managua could spark violent clashes among their supporters and opponents. It has banned all airlines servicing Managua from selling tickets to any of the eight leaders of the rebels' Nicaraguan Resistance umbrella group.

Mr. Ortega criticised Costa Rica for allowing its territory to be used by the rebels for engaging

Tokyo police arrest Red Army leader

TOKYO (R) — Police said on Tuesday they had arrested a top leader of the ultra-radical Japanese Red Army following a 14-year hunt.

A police spokesman said Osamu Maruoka, 37, who he said helped hijack two passenger jets in the 1970s, was arrested on Saturday.

The spokesman said Maruoka

was believed to have arrived the same day on a flight from Hong Kong.

The arrest was the first of a Red Army member since police detained Yoshiaki Yamada, 38, in February 1986.

Police have said the group, which used to number about 200, had shrunk to about 20, most of whom were living in the Middle East.

In 1973, a guerrilla group allegedly led by Maruoka blew up an empty Japan Air Lines (JAL) Jumbo Jet in Libya.

He was also part of a five-man Red Army group that hijacked a JAL jetliner over India in 1977, taking the passengers hostage, police said.

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